



Wrote his first song around 1970 or 71 and wrote it while traveling with a band called New Nashville Sound. The song was basically about being in a bar and getting drunken kind of thing. He afterwards went along time before writing another song.

He wrote a song in 1992 called "The Battle of the Sexes" which was recorded down in Texas and it sold about 10,000 copies. It was also on 45-rpm records, which appeared on a lot of Jukeboxes. He realizes that if he could make a few hundred dollars with a song like that, he could a few hundred dollars here and there with possible top hits.

He did not have any inspirations; instead he started out as a tunesmith (which is a person whom would put a tune together and edit it to a possible fine tune in which lyrics could be added) he could put a tune to about anything.

At first he had trouble with writing lyrics and was making trips to Nashville to work with someone on putting lyrics to his song. He received great advice from top lyricists in Nashville and started down the right path to writing lyrics.

Don believes that every songwriter would have to read and reread to see if the lyrics needs to be improved or needs and alternate. He believes that a person needs to get the raw idea into his lyrics at first and go back and make any and all improvements regardless of how long it takes.

Don had friends come up and suggested lyrics or had ideas for lyrics. Bob Dylan and Paul Simon and Carole King also inspired him. He is always looking for good ideas for lyrics for his songs.

His inspiration for song writing pretty much has to do with places, events, and situations, etcetera that people can relate to like a situation or an event is mentioned and people would say "I can relate to that" or "I've been there before".

What would make it in a song and what wouldn't make it is done by first writing a story that you would have to tell the start, middle and end within a couple to several minutes in a song. As long you get the main idea it's going to work.

He wrote a song called "Moonshine Runner" which is about a moon shiner who would have a vehicle riddled with bullet holes and have a secret tank to haul moonshine in. This person that inspired him to write this song was famous with some people not all and the Revenuers.

His goal in songwriting is to reflect to feelings where people can relate with time, era and events. He would like to have his songs reflect the time as he sees them. He would like to write a hit song without sacrifice but yet his own way. He don't want to do it any other way. He writes best if it is the way he feels and not being pressured by others on styles and ideas. His goals is to write a hit song, feel that he is successful at songwriting and is a success in

the view of his peers.

His philosophy in songwriting is the same philosophy as in life, be true to yourself, be true to your songs. It's like baring your soul to the public kind of like standing out there naked, but worse you're exposing your soul and you need something to keep you from being vulnerable, because you're giving up a piece of yourself to the world.

Some of the artists that influence Don include: Bob Dylan, Paul Simon, Carole King, B.B. King and others. Blues, Jazz, Country and Bluegrass are some of Don's favorite genres. He likes anything if it is good or done well.

He believes that music does influent lives and that without music suicide rates would be higher. Music can help you to express yourself. It can be a way to cheer up or a way to mourn for the loss of love ones or to indicate sadness.

If he would become famous, It would change him but he won't forget where he come from or his friends and relatives, but to know that he worked hard and accomplished plenty without sacrificing friendships or roots. He would like to have a big home with a studio to where he would let inspiring songwriters come and record there.

Life is like a song. Your life is like a song. Everyone has at least one song in them. Maybe one hit song if you can get it out. Music is Life, music and life are harmony and there you can have chords. Life is like a song and in reverse music is life.

His advice for songwriters is to get into a songwriters group, share songs with other members and get advice from them on songwriting. The advice for singers is a whole different ball park, for singing, get with people you trust, sing for them and get out there

He is sincere about his writing and serious about his music, sincere about the stuff he write about, not just coming up with any old thing. Prefers to use kind of like metaphors so when a listener listens then they can understand what the songwriter meant.

He is happily married to his wife Cindy for 30+ years, has 4 kids mostly grown, the last one is a senior in high school. He has a 1-year-old grandson whom is his first grandchild.

He is a loyal Cornhusker fan but not as serious as a major Nebraska Cornhusker fanatic. He has seen on TV "Larry the Cable Guy" interviewed at a Cornhusker game in Lincoln, NE.

His wife's name is Cindy; his oldest son is Matthew, a daughter named Angela, a son Greg who works with him in his electrical business, his youngest Anthony a great Tennis player who last year won the championship and his grandson's name is Tyler.

